



U.S. Peace Corps / Burkina Faso

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Peace Corps / Burkina Faso FACT SHEET

updated 1/20/09

- Between 1966 - 1987 and 1995 - present, 1,500 Peace Corps Volunteers have served in Burkina Faso.
- Currently, 112 PCVs work in Burkina Faso, nearly all living in rural villages or small cities.
- 59% of our PCVs are women, 19% represent ethnic minorities, 96% are single.
- The average age is 26, with 11 PCVs age 30 or over and one Volunteer aged 68.
- Burkina PCVs serve in one of four programs: Secondary Education (SE), Girls Education and Empowerment (GEE), Health Education (HE), and Small Enterprise Development (SED).
 1. **SE** PCVs are secondary education teachers, teaching math, science and (new in 2008) information technology.
 2. **GEE** PCVs serve as liaisons between schools and communities with a goal to empower and support girls to attend and succeed in school.
 3. **HE** PCVs work in rural community health centers to build the capacity of health center management committees and implement health promotion and disease prevention programs.
 4. **SED** PCVs support sustainable income generation through small business development, artisanal crafts, agribusiness and/or microfinance.
- All PCVs work on secondary projects such as HIV/AIDS prevention, moringa tree planting and other food security initiatives, and appropriate technology.
- 36 in-country staff (3 Americans, 1 Canadian, 1 Cameroonian, and 31 Burkinabé) are based in Ouagadougou and Bobo.
- The in-country budget for PC/BF in FY09 is \$2.73 million.

Goals and Objectives for 2009-2011¹

Goal 1: Ensure Volunteers have significant and meaningful work

1.1 Explore the viability of opening an new AG & Environment Program
1.2 Improve site selection process and apply across sectors
1.3 Improve technical support to PCVs
1.4 Strengthen programming and training
1.5 Institutionalize Project Advisory Committees for each sector

Goal 2: PCBF will improve support to Volunteers resulting in increase PCVs satisfaction with their work, their relationships with the PC office, and their communities

2.1 Encourage PCVs by providing feedback and recognizing their work
2.2 Improve communications between PCVs and staff
2.3 Support PCV resiliency
2.4 Improve Counterparts' ability to support Volunteers on the field

Goal 3: Continue to improve training in order to better prepare PCVs for life and work at their sites

4.1 Increase PCTs/PCVs ability to master local language and culture throughout their service in addition to French as a key to community integration and professional effectiveness
4.2 Continue to improve the evaluation system for measuring the mastery and use of competencies by PCTs/PCVs
4.3 Improve PCV technical skills throughout their service.
4.4 Improve PCV ability to assess risks and respond accordingly

Goal 4: Foster staff capacity within a rewarding work environment

3.1 Provide opportunities for staff to develop as a team.
3.2 Clarify staff understand roles, responsibilities, and working relationships.
3.3 Provide opportunities for staff to learn how to better support PCVs.
3.4 Systematically track and address staff performance needs through (at least) annual evaluations and regular feedback.

Goal 5: Reinforce Post performance accountability

1.1 Develop and implement a system of accountability to reach our post level goals
1.2 Monitor and evaluate PCV performance for accountability and share best practices

¹ From Peace Corps/Burkina Faso IPBS strategic plan, April 2008.